

Easterling, Deborah

233544

From: Easterling, Deborah
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2011 2:54 PM
To: 'Richard Bennett'
Subject: RE: Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Bennett,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your email to the Public Service Commission. I am forwarding your email to our Clerk's Office for processing. Your email will become a part of Docket No. 2011-271-E and will be posted on our website under this docket.

Please let me know if you should require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
Administrative Assistant

From: Richard Bennett [<mailto:twave1@frontier.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 1:44 PM
To: Letters@greenvillenews.com
Cc: Contact
Subject: Duke Energy Rate Increase

Dear Greenville News Staff,

The attached letter regarding the proposed Duke Energy rate increase sums up my feelings about this issue. My wife and I moved to Simpsonville in May of 2011. We really like the Greenville / Simpsonville area and are concerned that Duke's proposal will impact the quality of life for many in a negative fashion.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Bennett Jr.
5 Birchall Lane
Simpsonville, S.C., 29681
864-962-9421

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NOV 16 2011
PSC SC
MAIL / DMS

Light bulb goes on - Duke, make it 1.8%!

Cap rate increases at 50% of SSI COLA and hold the line for 4 years.

Duke Energy proposes an increase of 17% - Social Security COLA increase 3.6%

Duke drains power from the people. The proposed rate increase is unreasonable and excessive. In an age of exorbitant executive compensation packages and corporations riding roughshod over consumers, Duke Energy is crossing a moral and ethical line that is akin to train robbery by masked bandits. A more reasonable approach is called for. What if the rate increase was 1.8% to be held steady for four years and then re-evaluated at the end of 2015?

Numerous citizens are having a hard time making ends meet. Unemployment is high, seniors on fixed incomes are skipping meals, food pantries are shuttered ... let's order some \$16 muffins.

Infrastructure improvements and system evolution is warranted and a necessary part of any business plan. South Carolina residents deserve and expect dependable energy at a competitive cost. This won't hold true if Duke's money grab is allowed to happen unimpeded. The interests of the citizens need to be protected by the PSC.

To be fair, the Upstate region is attracting migration from across the country; part of the reason is the cost of living is more reasonable. While areas experience a rebirth and steady growth, one can't expect a business to snap their fingers and accommodate this growth without some expansion and infrastructure upgrades. At the same time, Duke needs to realize the Money Tree in the back yard died a couple of years ago. While the Duke Energy people figure, if you don't ask ... you can't get, something's wrong with this picture.

Richard T. Bennett Jr.

Simpsonville, S.C.